

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-23 (Cancelled)

Claim 24 (Currently amended): A fuse tube having a multiple layered laminate construction including an inner arc-quenching surface layer comprised of a filament wound filamentous fiber reinforced material supported in a matrix comprising a thermosetting resin and melamine, and also including at least one outer layer of filament wound glass fiber reinforced thermosetting resin, said outer layer being bonded to said inner arc-quenching surface layer whereby no dielectric or mechanical interface is present between said inner and outer layers, said inner arc-quenching surface layer comprising at least 10% by weight melamine, at least 10% by weight of said filamentous fiber material and at least 40% by weight of said thermosetting resin.

Claim 25 (Previously amended): The fuse tube of claim 24 wherein said thermosetting resin comprises bisphenol-A epoxy resin.

Claim 26 (Previously amended): The fuse tube of claim 25 wherein said filamentous fiber material is selected from the group of acrylic, polyester, nylon, rayon, cotton, cellulose and mixtures thereof.

Claims 27-35 (Canceled)

36 (Previously amended): A method of fabricating an arc-quenching tube via the winding of a first fiber in one or more winding passes and the subsequent forming of a predetermined taper within the arc-quenching tube wherein the predetermined taper defines the desired minimum wall thickness of the tube, the arc-quenching tube having a desired minimum wall thickness after fabricating so as to provide the expected arc-quenching over the expected use of the arc-quenching tube, the method comprising winding the arc-quenching tube such that the first fiber lays flat and does not overlap in each of the one or more winding passes whereby a predetermined suitable uniformity is achieved in the thickness of the tube, the method further comprising forming a predetermined taper within the arc-quenching tube wherein the predetermined taper defines the desired minimum wall thickness of the tube, the predetermined suitable uniformity being such that variations in the thickness of the tube are significantly less than the desired minimum wall thickness so as not to significantly impact or interfere with the desired minimum wall thickness defined by the predetermined taper.

Claims 37-38 (Cancelled)

Claim 39 (Original): The method of claim 36 further comprising the winding of a second fiber in one or more winding passes over the first fiber, the second fiber being different from the first fiber, the method further comprising winding such that the second fiber lays flat and does not overlap in each of the one or more winding passes whereby uniformity is achieved in the thickness of the tube.